Message Text

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PAGE 01 NOUAKC 01715 271251Z ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9785
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
USLO RIYADH
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAID, MR, SA

SUBJ: SAUDI ARABIAN AID TO MAURITANIA

REF: A) 77 STATE A-8, N) 77 STATE A-22, C) 77 STATE A-23

1. FOLLOWING TWO-DAY WORKING VISIT BY DIRECTOR OF SAUDI DEVELOPMENT FUND, OUSSAMA JAAFAR FAKIH, MAURITANIAN GOVERNMENT (GIRM) ANNOUNCED JUNE 25-26 RECEIPT OF THIRTY-YEAR LOAN OF 100 MILLION RIALS (APPROXIMATELY 29 MILLION DOLS) INTENDED TO FINANCE VARIOUS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROJECTS. SPECIFIC PROJECTS MENTIONED IN PRESS COMMUNIQUE WERE CONSTRUCTION OF NATIONAL POLICE SCHOOL. PALACE OF JUSTICE, AND HOSPITAL AT AIOUN, CREATION OF MOBILE WATER BRIGADES, CONSTRUCTION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 NOUAKC 01715 271251Z

MANY CLASS ROOMS IN INTERIOR OF COUNTRY AND EQUIPPING OF A PRINTING PRESS FOR SCHOOL BOOKS.

2. COMMENT LOAN IS CONTINUING EVIDENCE OF STRONG SAUDI SUPPORT FOR GIRM WHICH HAD RESULTED IN WHAT SAUDI DIPLOMAT HERE SAID WAS 100 MILLION DOLS IN AID LAST YEAR, 50 MILLION OF WHICH WAS MILITARY,

60 ECONOMIC. IT IS FIRST SIGNIFICANT SAUDI PAYMENT TO GIRM IN 1978 AND SHOULD REDUCE SPECULATION HERE THAT SAUDIS HAVE DECIDED TO CUT BACK ON THEIR ASSISTANCE TO MAURITANIA. DUNBAR

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